

**SECRET**16 June 1961  
RDP 3634-61

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Air Support Branch, DPD-DD/P  
SUBJECT: Field Trip Report, 19-20 May and 1-2 June 1961

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1. On 19 May 1961 I reported to [ ] for a period of two days for the purpose of reviewing, with appropriate [ ] staff members, the proposed training curricula and available equipment to be used in the Evasion and Escape program designed for Project [ ]. This training program was scheduled for 21 May to 2 June 1961. On 1 June 1961 I returned to [ ] to be present for the training critique with the students and to discuss, with the training staff, specific training problems encountered.

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2. During the initial visit referenced above the following changes or additions to the scheduled training program were suggest to the [ ] training staff: (since the training program was scheduled to start three days after this visit, changes were kept to a minimum.)

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- a. Add the subject of basic map interpretation as pertaining to both land navigation and map discrepancies inherent to wilderness areas.
- b. Add lecture and demonstration material pertaining to E & E equipment normally required for use in all climatic areas rather than restrict the program to the equipment included in the bail-out kit forwarded by DPD to OTR.
- c. Eliminate from the program all survival procedures and techniques suitable only for use in friendly areas and instead concentrate on those procedures pertaining to survival in hostile areas.

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- d. Add instruction and exercises in proper manipulation of a parachute and execution of proper landing fall (PLF).
- e. Add instruction regarding proper use of emergency rations when evader is incapacitated from shock, injury, dehydration or extreme exposure.
- f. Add instruction regarding the modification or improvisation of clothing as related to various extremes of climate.
- g. Add demonstration and practice of emergency self-aid, as contrasted to first aid, for management of injury and illness.
- h. Change "Resistance to Interrogation" to include academic instruction regarding the many approaches to interrogation in addition to the scheduled interrogation "exercise."
- i. Minimize the use of USAF survival films which pertain to "friendly area" survival or aircrew survival.
- j. At the time the above curricular changes were recommended, the contents of the emergency bail-out kits, forwarded for use in the training program, were reviewed and the following changes proposed to the training staff members for immediate action so as to permit revision of the kits prior to the field phase of the training program:
  - a. Add emergency rations (resistance ration) and supplemental food packet to kit.
  - b. Change flashlight to lightweight, waterproof, shock-proof, plastic flashlight.
  - c. Add cushion sole socks.
  - d. Add hunting knife.

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- e. Add sheet of heavy-duty aluminum foil to serve as cooking container.
- f. Substitute collapsible plastic canteen for rigid aluminum canteen.
- g. Add collapsible plastic water bottle.
- h. Add Recta compass and eliminate wrist type.
- i. Add long burning candles for fire starter.
- j. Add signal mirror, metal, and eliminate glass mirror.
- k. Add waterproof plastic match case and eliminate metal case.
- l. Add water purification strip pack and eliminate iodine tablets.
- m. Add cutter snake-bite kit.
- n. Change fishing and sewing kits to more compact types.
- o. Add 20-day medical kit.
- p. Add sharpening stone.
- q. Eliminate "Coppertone" Sun-Fun Cream, but leave tube of sunburn preventative ointment in kit.
- r. For demonstration purposes add the following to classroom training equipment:
  - (1) Various cutting tools such as machetes, different types of knives, etc.
  - (2) Food items.

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- (3) Weapons (self-defense).
- (4) Appropriate scale charts and maps.
- (5) Variety of compasses, including concealable types.

4. On 2 June a critique was held to discuss the training program and consider changes for future programs of a similar nature. Student reaction to the training appeared very good. The critique revealed the following weaknesses in the program:

- a. Insufficient instruction and student practice regarding protection from climatic exposure. This includes small individual shelters and improvised clothing.
- b. Insufficient instruction in the techniques of obtaining food and water, to include stealing food.
- c. Travel distance was accomplished at too fast a pace to realistically accomplish proper evasion procedures and techniques.
- d. Bail-out survival and evasion kit equipment used in the field phase of training should be identical to that carried on the operational mission. The kits received were quite unrealistic for any overflight mission. Last minute reworking of the kits served only as a stop-gap measure as no information was available as to mission cover so as to prepare a kit compatible with each cover.
- e. Land navigation training, particularly the field phase, should be based upon the scale charts a pilot would have available during the operational mission. The training program utilized an unrealistic scale which places the navigation practice under an entirely different perspective and which requires or permits the use of entirely different navigational procedures from those that will have to be employed under actual evasion conditions.

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2. Training of this type should be designed to accommodate the individual student. This can be accomplished through obtaining background information regarding the student, consideration of his physical profile, knowledge of his mental acceptance of survival and evasion environmental conditions, age, and many other pertinent factors. Only when a training class consists of a mass number of students or when the success or failure of an evasion effort is of a less critical nature should a stereotype evasion and survival program be presented.
3. Demonstration materials, literature, training aid charts, and appropriate training films were lacking for this type of training program.
4. In consideration of the various training obstacles noted in this report, the training staff at [redacted] performed an excellent job and appeared to be highly motivated to this particular training task.

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Captain USAF

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DPD/ASE [redacted] (4543)

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